

THE DAGLIGTALE

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Check out the Dag's
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SUBMISSION
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Frosh Week: An Augustana Perspective



Students enjoy live entertainment at Augustana's Centenary celebrations during 2010 Welcome Week. (PHOTO: Augustana campus)

Submitted by Stephanie Gruhlke

For those of us who relied on media interpretations of what moving to university is supposed to be like, the first few weeks at Augustana were not what we expected.

There was no "frosh week" as it is portrayed in the movies; no hazing involving degrading pranks, obscene challenges or seemingly ridiculous activities (see movies such as *American Pie*, *Beta House*, *Animal House*, or *Old School*).

Instead students were greeted with two weeks of activities planned by residence life, ASUA and chaplaincy, which included free ice-cream, bonding activities and team spirit events such as hockey games and the Dean's Walk. However, there were still plenty of opportunities for drinking shenanigans during the first week: Sunday night at OC's, the first wing-Wednesday of the year, and (likely) some off campus partying as well. Augustana first years were not active or party deprived, yet the experience was nothing like the movies.

"Frosh week" was a term that refers to what we call "welcome week" at Augustana, or "orientation" at other universities. Activities are planned by several different student groups around the campus in order to welcome new and first year students.

According to Maclean's online coverage of Canadian frosh weeks, activities can include anything from parades,

to beach parties and live concerts, to world record breaking salad making competitions, scavenger hunts, beer gardens and much more.

In addition to all the entertaining events students also learn about their new institution through club fairs, campus tours and faculty specific events. For the most part, frosh week is supposed to engage new students and help them feel like a part of their new school.

Unfortunately this was not achieved at all universities in Canada. St. Mary's University in Halifax has been brought under public and media scrutiny over the past couple weeks for their frosh week chants. A 16 second video was released of SMU frosh week organizers participating in a chant that had lines such as "SMU boys we like them young... Y is for your sister, O is for oh so tight, U is for underage, N is for no consent, G is for grab that a**."

CBC News is calling it a "rallying cry for no holds barred sex with minors," which many are saying promotes rape culture on the campus. At the same time, *The Globe and Mail* broke the news of a similar chant being used by the UBC Commerce Undergraduate Society which also promoted underage and non-consensual sex. Since this time, the presidents of the Students Unions at both campuses have resigned, numerous other people

are under disciplinary review and both schools have retracted their support of frosh week events. Organizers at both universities will be forced to undergo sensitivity or anti-violence training.

While the people responsible for the chant have been reprimanded for their actions, these events have opened a full blown media frenzy debating the importance of frosh/welcome/orientation weeks. The most prominent anti-frosh week piece is a *Globe and Mail* article written by Russell Smith which argues that frosh week [and school spirit in general] is pointless, and all frosh week activities should be discontinued.

He relies heavily on the use of historical examples of hazing which he readily admits have now been banned. Smith's main argument is that all frosh events are a way to create school spirit and group bonding, neither of which are traits necessary for future professions.

He states that "universities can teach maturity. They can teach teenagers how to be adults and that means to function outside a clique or a tribe. Frosh-week bonding makes a fetish of immaturity." He closes the article by stating that since none of the "good" students participate in such events, he sees no point in them.

Having worked both in residence life, as well as stu-

dent government, I was equally offended by both the chants used at other universities and the reaction arguments made by Smith's article.

As Augustana has proven with a long tradition of successful welcome weeks, it is possible to hold frosh/welcome events without physically, emotionally or psychologically harming anyone.

There is no need or place for misogynistic rape-rage chants such as the ones that the SMU and UBC campuses used; the fact that student leaders allowed for them to be used without question still boggles my mind. However, Smith's arguments about how useless the activities are and how "everyone knows that the best students don't participate in the rah-rah hysteria, even in first year" and how "the best students are hiding in their rooms, wondering if this whole thing is going to be just as bad as high school" made me almost as angry and insulted as the chants themselves.

[As both a student and a leader at Augustana] I have learned that a good orientation is one of the best things that a school can do for incoming students. Orientation brings students together, gives them a support group and most importantly, teaches them that their university experience can be exciting and enjoyable, and not just filled with lectures and tests.

[Continued on Page 2]

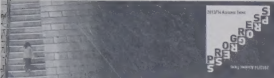
[Continued from Page 1]

Frosh week events have the ability to accomplish all of these things while also making new students excited to spend the next year at university.

Why has Augustana's Welcome Week always been so successful? Is it the steadfast collaboration between all the student groups? The dedication

of countless individuals who work every year to put it on?

The first years who come in and participate in a fun and respectful way? [These are all important factors], but what is important is that the tradition of community building and school bonding continues without going so far as to be blatantly inappropriate and disrespectful.



Annual Theme: "Progress"

Submitted by Emily Holliston Merkleinger

Every year, Augustana chooses a "theme" to orientate the school year around. In the past, we have seen themes ranging from "Food Production" (2008) to "Dissent" (2009) to "Living with Ourselves: Conversations on Sex, Gender and Sexuality" (2010), and last year's theme, "Resilience."

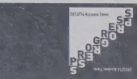
The themes have brought in a wide array of guest speakers and have led to changes in the community of both Augustana and Camrose. For example, during 2010's "Sex, Gender and Sexuality" theme, transgendered singer-songwriter Rae Spoon performed at Scalliwags and gave a lecture to music and sociology students. The same year, gender theorist Michael Kimmel lectured on masculinity, and Dr. Nat Hurley presented on transgendered children's self-identification with mermaids.

During the "Food Production" theme in 2008, Augustana began to serve more locally sourced food in the cafeteria and now locally sourced meals are served once a month.

The theme for 2013/2014 is "Progress." The summary of progress on the annual theme website suggests that the theme allows for a wide array of presentation and topics that relate to multiple disciplines. But what is progress and how is it going to impact our campus?

The Oxford English Dictionary defines progress as "the course or progress of a series of actions, events, etc., through time; advancement through such a course" and "progression or advancement through a process, a sequence of events, a period of time, etc.; movement towards an outcome or conclusion".

Certainly, the definition of progress allows for discussions to occur surrounding the very notion of what progress is and how it impacts the world in which we live—



What is progressive and who defines progress? "Progress" will be discussed throughout a series of lectures during the year. The first lecture, which occurred on September 16, was "Is Progressive Rock Progressive?" Dr. Alex Carpenter and Dr. Jérôme Melançon discussed the notion of progress in relation to musical progress, and social-political progress using the theoretical template of Marxist theorist, Theodor Adorno and the musical examples of YES and Pink Floyd.

The series of lectures on progress will continue throughout the year. This year's guest lectures include: Kristen Harpiviken, Director of the Peace Research Institute in Ohio on November 5; Dr. Douglas Francis from the University of Calgary, "Technology and Progress: A Canadian Perspective" on November 19; and, Jillian Buriak. Throughout the year, Augustana faculty will offer lectures on the theme.

The theme will also be spoken about in individual classes in relation to course material. The theme year will conclude with a student undergraduate conference, where students deliver papers on progress.

The next faculty seminar will occur on September 23 at 12:30 in the Roger Epp Conference Room. Dr. Jonathan Mohr will be presenting on "Moore's Law Meets AMDahl's Law: Exponential Progress Hits the Wall" and Dr. Ingrid Urberg will be presenting on "The Nordic Countries as Progressive Role Models: Realities and Myths".

For more information on this year's theme, as well as past themes, check out: <http://www.augustana.ualberta.ca/theme/>

Augustana's Composter Conundrum Ian Anderson DAG EDITOR

As Augustana reaches the end of a two year pilot phase for its composter, the question is, "what will happen to it?"

The industrial composter located outside the cafeteria was installed approximately two years ago through a North Campus Sustainability Grant of \$50,000.00. The composter directed over 50% of waste generated by the campus away from the landfill. During the past two years the composter has been inactive for more than a third of the time due to the unpleasant odour it had been emitting.

One rumoured cause of the odour is metal cutlery being thrown out. Small objects like cutlery have no impact on the machine and do not influence the smell.

The odour is caused by an imbalance of the recipe used to decompose the waste. The recipe consists of the organic waste, its liquid content, and oxygen. In addition to the recipe, a bulking agent (normally wood chips) is needed for the composting process to work effectively.

The imbalance with the recipe is due to the ever

changing composition of the waste that goes into the machine (different foods every day) and the lack of available staffing to test different mix amounts for each new composition.

Various methods have been researched and executed in an effort to curb the problem such as bringing in experts from North Campus, moving the machine, or even outsourcing the operation.

Advice from North Campus was given to help change the mixture but thus far has been unsuccessful. In early 2013, Augustana administration decided that due to the odour, the machine could no longer operate in its current location outside the cafeteria, and it would need to be relocated. A number of possible sites are being looked at, but the problem in moving the machine is its need for a large amount of power (220v) wherever it is located.

In addition to the odour, another key issue for the project is cost. The Sustainability Grant covered the purchase of the machine but no logistical or upkeep costs were included. To date, the bulking

agent has been the only ongoing expense (aside from utilities). If the operation of the composter is to continue, it will require several volunteers or possibly a paid position. With all of the budget cuts the university is facing, is it prudent for Augustana to fund the relocation of the machine? It would not only entail the moving costs, but likely utility upgrades and operational expenses.

The alternative action is to continue what the university has been doing since the composter stopped operating: send waste to the landfill. Camrose has very low tipping fees of \$37.00 per ton and the landfill is located just a few miles south of campus. Currently there are no numbers on the operational costs of the project, or the potential costs of the proposed solutions.

Dr. Karsten Müdel, Learning and Beyond Director and Project Leader for the composter, says that they are currently in a "wait and see" phase on what the next step will be. He invites anyone with ideas to stop by the Learning & Beyond office in Ronning House.

What grinds your gears?

People dragging their feet.
-Wayne

Impoliteness
-Katrina

When people don't say thank you for holding open the door.
-Dylan

People standing in doorways.
-Scott

Earthwise's agenda.
-Ryan

Underlining text freehand.
-Lyndon

Strollers in shopping malls.
-George

Got something on your mind that really grinds your gears? Let us know!

AlbertaVoices Film Series PRESS RELEASE

University of Alberta students Hans Asfeldt and Alison Bortolon spent the summer digging for missing parts of the discussion on hydraulic fracturing in Alberta. As video journalists for the AlbertaVoices project, Hans and Alison sought to investigate the discrepancy between the perspectives of industry and government and the experiences of Alberta landowners. Their travels brought them face to face with farmers, operators, retirees and people of all kinds who have been impacted by oil and gas activity.

Last fall, Hans researched the impacts of hydraulic fracturing on water

development. It is the hope of AlbertaVoices that sharing these stories will help replace controversy with clarity and encourage responsible, informed decisions that will lead to a future we all hope for.

Hans and Alison have worked hard to get the project off the ground, but it is the hospitality and honesty of Albertans themselves that has brought AlbertaVoices forward. Check out www.albertavoices.ca every Tuesday for a new story, and check it out today to read and watch various stories that have already been published.

"Accidental Diplomacy" Submitted by Cody Torkelson

When U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry was innocently asked by a reporter in a press conference on Sept. 9th what Syrian President Bashar al-Assad could do to prevent United States military intervention in the ongoing Syrian civil war, Mr. Kerry's remarks caught the world off guard.

U.S. President Barack Obama had made it clear early on in the Syrian civil war that the use of chemical weapons by either side was his "red line." Obama was put in the spotlight when chemical weapons were proven to be used on Aug. 21st.

The red line had been crossed, and Obama was expected to respond. Yet, Russia was blocking any chance of a military intervention in the United Nations Security Council and the United States Congress was looking decidedly unlikely to authorize military force. Kerry seemingly stumbled on the solution.

Kerry stated that to prevent U.S. intervention, the Syrian president would have to immediately hand over all chemical weapons he may possess to U.N. inspectors. Kerry's dismissive tone at the time made it clear he was doing little more than humouring the inquisitive reporter, and that he did not expect Assad to actually take him up on this offer.

Remarkably, his off-the-cuff improvised reply quickly provoked a response from the Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov: that Russia, a staunch supporter of the Assad regime, would be on board with Kerry's proposal. Within hours, Syria agreed that in order to prevent U.S. intervention, they would cooperate to hand over their chemical weapons stockpiles. To the world it seemed that Kerry had stumbled into a diplomatic coup.

Over the last week-

end Kerry and Lavrov met and proposed an accord stating Russia and the United States' willingness to work together to gain control of Syria's chemical arsenal by the middle of next year.

Kerry's accidental diplomacy, while it freed President Obama from having to initiate a military strike on Syria, did little more than buy the Syrian president time. [Many critics speculate that Assad may obstruct U.N. inspectors should they actually arrive, or even use the bought time to hide, use or move the Syrian chemical arsenal.]

Whatever the outcome of the diplomatic talks, it would seem that Kerry's remarks set a dangerous precedent. Diplomacy conducted over cable television, [where remarks made at press conferences can be improvised, and often heated], is dangerous, regardless of how fortunate the results seem.

Tour of Alberta: Camrose Style!

Submitted by Kelly Milne



(PHOTO: Kelly Milne)

The Tour of Alberta passed through Camrose this September, bringing to our quiet city attention, excitement, and a sweaty sort of glamour.

Camrose has proved itself before in the international athletic community, having facilitated part of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay.

By presenting ourselves as a community that welcomes and encourages elite athleticism, we demonstrate to younger generations, and to the world, that we have something to contribute to what we consider valuable, international discussion and events.

With the social turmoil bubbling to the surface over the upcoming Winter Games in Sochi, Russia, it is important to note that even Camrosians can be engaged with politics and athletics on a global scale.

A new race, with the name based on the high-profile Tour de France, saw high-performance, international athletes speed past the Augustana Campus of the University of Alberta. The route required three loops of diverse geography, hair-pin turns, and way-

ward pedestrians, finishing by the Edgeworth Centre.

The rush of the wind, whir of the tires, blur of colours, intense heat, and parade of bicycle-clad vehicles was impressive to behold, to say the least.

Volunteers from around the community patrolled intersections to divert vehicle and pedestrian traffic, and had front row seats to marvel at the incredible skill and training it takes to bike at 40-50 kilometers per hour.

Race highlights included the arrival of the breakaway pack, the sheer volume and coordination of the peloton, and the bizarre discarding of empty water bottles, which would prove to be cool mementos for younger fans.

After a prologue in Edmonton to determine the race line-up, cyclists completed five stages finishing in Camrose, Red Deer, Drumheller, Black Diamond, and Calgary, respectively. Canadian teams included the Canadian National Team and Equipe Quebecor-Garneau.

Canadian Ryan Anderson, 26, placed eighth overall, and we had 4 competitors finish in the top 25. Rohan Dennis, 23, from Australia completed the race first with a total time of 17:48:40.

See tourofAlberta.ca/site/results for more details.

**Many Questions Arise Following Naval Shipyard Shooting**

Submitted by Lyndon Stanzell

On Monday, September 16 at approximately 8:20am, 34 year old Aaron Alexis entered the Naval Sea Systems Command Headquarters of the U.S. Navy in the Navy Shipyard of Washington D.C.

He made his way to an upper floor above the atrium in Building 197 and opened fire on the bystanders below. The shooting left 13 people dead (including Alexis after being shot by police) and 8 others wounded. The nearly 3000 workers who normally occupy the shipyard were temporarily cleared out in order to let police and investigators gather evidence around the crime scene.

At the time of publication, Alexis' motive for the shooting is unclear. Alexis was formerly a reservist in the U.S. Navy,

and at the time of the shooting, he was doing work as a contractor for the military. Because of his working status and issued I.D., he was able to gain entry into the shipyard.

Much evidence and discussion has already surfaced regarding the mental and legal history of Alexis. In particular, it has been noted that after joining the Navy in 2007, he was cited for misconduct on a total of 8 separate occasions, all described as relatively minor. Nonetheless, he received an honourable discharge in January 2011. Despite leaving active service, he maintained his security clearance.

In the past, Alexis has also had several run-ins with police, having been arrested in 2004, 2008, and 2010, with the first and last arrests based on fire-arm-related charges. He also

reportedly suffered from mental problems, including paranoia and a sleep disorder.

It is here where the discussion and questions come in.

If reports of Alexis' mental issues are valid, that raises questions about the screening process performed by the U.S. Military that he would have gone through prior to gaining employment with them.

Some are also questioning why, after being arrested on multiple occasions, being cited for misconduct and formally discharged from the military, Alexis was able to maintain his security clearance, and therefore pursue another job with the military as a private contractor.

has connotations of freshness and fluidity: desirable words that can be applied to the idea of gender and sexuality. Co-presidents Nick Yarney and Kelly Milne, and secretary Jennifer Ha currently make up the club executive. With only one member remaining from the previous incarnation of AQUA, this is a new experience for all three of the executives.

Milne was a casual member of AQUA in her first two years and decided to act upon her interest in it: "[Augustana alum] Nick Sommer was really passionate about it, so he

AQUA Reappears on Campus Robyn Sheremeta DAG EDITOR

After a year of dormancy, Augustana Queers and Allies (AQUA) has become active again.

On Wednesday, September 11, twelve club members showed up to the first AQUA meeting of the year. The club members introduced themselves, planned their Club Fair booth, and discussed some of the club's goals and focus areas.

According to the club's constitution, AQUA aims to: provide a positive atmosphere and regular meeting place at Augustana for all persons regardless of member-

ship, gender, or sexual identity, or expression thereof; recognize and support people who identify as gender or sexual minorities; cooperate with organizations with similar goals, both on and off campus; work to end gender- and sexuality-based discrimination and violence; and provide a safe and supportive environment for students who are facing adversity.

Previously known as "AQA," the club slightly changed the name this month so it can be easily pronounced. According to the club's Facebook page, the word "aqua"

really got me thinking about it."

Yarney was approached by sociology professor Tara Milbrandt to help with Pride Week last February. While conversing with Milne at Pride Week, their attention turned to AQUA. Ha joined them to round out the executive shortly after.

The North Campus Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services has been a huge aid in getting AQUA back on its feet. Education Coordinator Alexis Hillyard reached out to AQUA by providing press material for 2013

Pride Week and continues to communicate with members.

The executive met a week before the first official meeting to outline their plans for the year. Among the potential AQUA events are karaoke, trips to drag shows, movie nights (kicking off with *But I'm a Cheerleader* on September 26), and of course, Pride Week, occurring February 27– March 7, 2014.

AQUA also aims to involve Augustana in the "Words That Hurt" and "Erase Bullying" campaigns, which raise awareness about the impact of bullying.

OCTOBER 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30 Fee payment deadline	1	2 ASA AGM	3 Withdrawal deadline	4 Hockey vs. BC Men's basketball alumni	5 Hockey vs. BC
6	7 Dagligtale submission deadline	8	9	10	11 Hockey vs. SAIT	12 X-country running
13	14 Thanksgiving-- no classes	15	16	17 Women's basketball tournament	18 Preview Day Women's basketball tournament Athletics preview day	19 Women's basketball tournament
20 Taste of Camrose	21 Dagligtale submission deadline	22	23	24 Fall break-- no classes	25 Fall break-- no classes Volleyball vs. OC	26 Hockey vs. GMU
27	28	29 Town hall budget meeting	30 Hockey vs. NAIT	31 Halloween Academic/leadership scholarship deadline Tricks for Eats	1 Volleyball vs. CUCA	2 Curling vs. Lakeland Basketball vs. CUCA

Soup Supper: Tuesdays 5-6 Chapel: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 10-10:20

Grand Theft Auto 5 Ian Anderson DAG EDITOR

As many of you already know, GTA 5 hit the shelves last week. Here is the impression I have so far.

The game begins in the middle of a bank robbery in small town U.S.A., which really sets the mood for the game right from the get go, with heists being a focus on the main story.

One of the main differences for the franchise is that there are three main characters that you can swap between at (almost) any time. You start off in Los Santos (a re-creation of Los Angeles) as Franklin, a troubled gang-banger who thinks the hood life isn't for him.

After some car repos and regular hood activity (prostitutes, shady dealings, etc.) we meet Michael: a middle-aged man who has "made it" and now deals with his stoner

son, promiscuous daughter, and cheating wife.

The last character is Trevor, a simple man who enjoys the single life and has a knack for destruction. His business arrangements are interesting to say the least. It takes almost four hours to finish all the tutorials and have all three characters ready to go. Surprisingly this didn't feel like too much of a grind with how the story progresses and how character introductions are done.

Another change for GTA is that the entire map is open from the start; no more blockaded bridges! This lets you explore the entire map right from the beginning, and it is massive. After being thrown into the world, I headed to LSIA (Los Santos International Airport) and acquired a passenger airliner. Planes make a return after being absent in GTA 4.



They are available at any of the three airports on the map.

Considering that the game operates on 6 year old technology, the game looks good. Not great, good. A lot of objects have clipping issues or rough edges but it rarely brought me out of the immersion of being a dope gangsta.

The level of immersion Rockstar (the developer of the game) has created is astonishing. People go for jogs, daily commutes, old men meet up on the golf course and best of all, they have the ability to watch TV or browse the web. The different TV shows in-game are hilarious. I watched "America's Most Racist" followed by "Republican Space Rangers" and both had huge production levels and felt like I was actually watching a TV show. I spent about 40 minutes watching both.

There were a few ma-

jor issues I had with the game though; the biggest one being vehicle saving. In previous GTA titles taking a car to the parking space outside of your home would save it for later. This time around there is both hide-out parking and garage parking. Both save your vehicles' progress, but garages are where your bought vehicles are supposed to spawn and hide-outs work like previous titles. I

have not been able to get my vehicles to save consistently without disappearing, and this makes me not even want to spend money on all the cool cars and upgrades because I don't know if they will save. Until a patch is released that explains and fixes how the system works, this is a huge loss for the game's immersion and customization abilities.

Another thing that really irked me was that each character has specific locations

that only they can buy. For example, as Michael, I had about a million dollars and I thought that the cab company would be a good investment. I drove across town to purchase the property and got a lovely message: "Only Franklin may purchase the Taxi Co." I was not happy, because I do not like Franklin and his gangster ways and definitely don't want to be purchasing property with him. I understand that characters do not share homes or money-- that makes sense to me, but not being able to buy property around town with whomever I want broke immersion for me.

Overall GTA 5 is a great game that will entertain me for a long time, but until the vehicle issues and property issues are solved I will remain disgruntled.

Pros:
+ Great story
+ Unique side mission
+ Huge world
+ Incredible immersion

Cons:
- Property limitations
- Vehicle saving issues
- Mediocre graphics

Rating: 8.5/10

